BENGALURU, SATURDAY, MARCH 16, 2024 www.Bangaloremirror.com 16 Pages PRICE ₹4

Bangalore Mirror ON SATURDAY

TEMP Max 30 | Min 21 | Humidity 77% Light Rain Showers Sensex 72,643 | Nifty 22,023 | Gold 65,598 | Silver 75,678 | Dollar 82.89 | Euro 90.22 | GBP 105.63

Amid water supply worries, BBMP invites second tender for operation and maintenance of 53 RO plants in south Bengaluru

THE DROP CAPITAL

Of 600 RO plants, many in poor maintenance

| Y Maheswara Reddy
c-y.reddy@timesgroup.com

TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

The Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) has been trying to earn some revenue from the reverse osmosis (RO) plants functioning at different locations in the city.

Reportedly the BBMP has already handed over RO plants in Rajarajeshwari Nagar to private agencies for maintenance and operation.

However, not many people and agencies evinced interest in the operation and maintenance of 53 RO plants in Bengaluru South.

With no response for the tender notification, the BBMP South executive engineer issued a tender notification for the second time inviting bidders for the operation and maintenance of RO plants.

"There was no response to the tender notification. We expect a positive response to the tender notification issued for the second time. The applicants have to participate in bidding and those who bid for a higher amount will be authorised to operate and maintain RO plants.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4 »

"Poor and middle-class families visit RO plants to fetch 20 litres of water by paying Rs 5 as it is cheaper than water supplied by private suppliers

— Eswarappa, Right To Water

Ad nausea

BBMP 'to hire agency to remove unauthorised advertisements, hoardings'

| Melvin Mathew
c-melvin.mathew@timesgroup.com

TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

The Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike has decided to take a new step in its battle against illegal/unauthorised advertisement hoardings in the city.

In the new measure, the BBMP is planning to hire an agency to remove the illegal/unauthorised advertisements and sell them to the agency.

The winning bidder will be given full ownership of the removed advertisements and allied infrastructure.

The civic body will authorise the agency with complete ownership of the seized illegal hoarding/advertisements including selling, using or doing anything as the owner of the seized property.

The hired agency would remove the illegal advertisements and would use or sell the material at their discretion.

The agency will be issued a 'sale certificate' by the BBMP for each captured item.

The Palike floated the tender for the removal of unauthorised hoardings, unipoles, bi-poles and bus shelter advertisements.

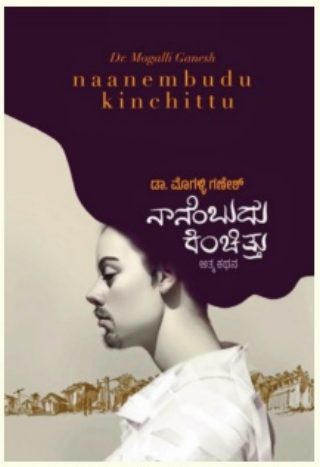
The agency will be required to submit a detailed list of seized advertisements and infrastructure removed within seven days of seizure. In case of failure to declare the aforementioned within the stipulated time, the agency would have to pay double the payable amount.

In January 2024, the Karnataka High

CONTINUED ON PAGE 12 »

3 THINGS TO DO

01 Diary of life



A discussion on Mogalli Ganesh's autobiography 'Nanembudu Kinchitthu', organised and moderated by writer and academician Chandan Gowda at Bangalore International Centre. This session aims to unpack the features of Ganesh's richly novel life narrative, offering insights into the spirit encapsulated within his stories. **Where: BIC, Domlur II stage**
When: March 17, 11am to 12:30 pm

02 Tune in to the music

Immerse in soulful music this weekend with a night filled with soul-stirring melodies by a live performance by the Voice of Rahul Collectives.
Where: Fan Park, 2nd Floor, Phoenix Mall of Asia – Bangalore North
When: March 16, 5 pm onwards

03 Art exhibit

Explore the unique collection that spans the evocative legacy of Indian art's pioneers at "The Masters & The Modern: An Amalgamation of the Old & New World Classics," an exhibition that bridges the historical depth and contemporary vitality of Indian art.
When: February 26 to March 31
Where: 38 Maini Sadan, 7th Cross Lavelle Road

Yes or no: Uncertainty clouds 'board' level exams

Students and parents express concerns; clueless over fresh exam dates

Sridhar Vivan
sridhar.vivan
@timesgroup.com
TWEETS @sridharvMirror

Thousands of students across Karnataka are facing uncertainty about their exam schedules. The recent Supreme Court decision on a stay on 'board' level assessment exams for grades five, eight, nine, and eleven has left students and parents in the dark, with no new dates announced by the Education Department.

Anirudh D, a fifth-grade student, is bewildered by the uncertainty surrounding his exam schedule due to the confusion regarding the conduct of 'board' level assessment exams. "I had diligently prepared for my exams, but now I am left in the dark about when they will take place. This delay means I cannot go out to play, as my parents insist I focus on studying until the exams are over. Meanwhile, it seems like my friends from other classes will soon finish their exams and enjoy their vacations, leaving me to wonder how much longer I have to wait," he said. This situation is likely to have a significant impact on the morale of students like Anirudh. The lack of clarity regarding exam dates can lead to increased stress and anxiety, affecting their overall well-being and motivation to study.

Earlier this week, the assessment exams for grades five, eight, and nine were postponed due to a stay granted by the Supreme Court. Initially, notifications dated October 6, 2023, and October 9, 2023, regarding the evaluation of Summative Assessment-2 (SA-2) were challenged in a single-member bench of the High Court, which put a stay on the exams. However, the government challenged this decision before the division bench the next day and issued an interim order permitting the Education Department to continue with the assessment tests. The interim order instructed the continuation of the assessment work for SA-2 for students in these classes starting on March 11, 2024. However, subsequent challenges were raised against this interim judgement in the Supreme Court. Following the Supreme Court's directive, assessment exams that were scheduled for March 13, 2024, have been postponed. As the case is still being heard at the Apex Court, there is still no clue about the exam dates. This confusion has disrupted vacation plans for some students, forcing them to reconsider and potentially postpone their holiday arrangements. Deepthi, a concerned parent, said, "I don't believe there is a necessity for board-level assessment exams. Having studied at a state board school myself, I recall having class-level exams. While board exams for tenth grade are crucial, I don't see the same necessity for other classes."

> **"Exams should not instil fear, the current situation is causing anxiety for both parents and students** – Chandramouli, a school teacher

Highlighting the widespread confusion among parents and schools, Chandramouli, a school teacher, expressed frustration at the recurring problem for the second consecutive year and stressed the need for educational matters to be resolved outside of the courtroom. He further stressed that exams should not instil fear, but unfortunately, the current situation is causing anxiety for both parents and students. Teachers are inundated with calls from anxious parents seeking clarity on the exam schedule. The cancellation or delay of exams has left many students, like Chandramouli's son, shocked and uncertain about their academic futures, further adding to the overall distress and uncertainty among students, parents, and educators alike.

Reacting to this, educationist VP Niranjan Aradhya said, "We welcome the Supreme Court's decision to uphold Fundamental Right 21A of the Constitution and Section 30 of the Right to Education Act. This decision puts a halt to the government's unlawful attempt to conduct board exams for class five and eight students. The Right to Education Act, enacted in 2009 and implemented in 2010, mandates continuous and comprehensive evaluation, as stipulated in Rule 23 formulated by the Central Government in 2010. Furthermore, Section 30 of the Act explicitly prohibits the imposition of any board examination on children until they complete elementary education. Thankfully, the Supreme Court upheld children's right to education and affirmed the importance of continuous and comprehensive evaluation. The results of children's assessments at the school level should suffice for planning the upcoming academic year without the need for unnecessary board exams."

Readers of the city, unite

Y Maheswara Reddy
c-y.reddy@timesgroup.com
TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

A literature festival to be held on Saturday and Sunday aims to showcase a diverse array of voices and perspectives from around the country. Visitors can look forward to a wide range of literary genres and themes, including fiction, non-fiction, poetry, music, ghazals and more. Kannada actress of Big Boss fame, Sangeetha Sringeri inaugurated the Garuda Literature Festival at the Garuda Mall.

"I was happy to see different types of books including used novels that are available at affordable prices. It is the ideal place for those who want to buy new as well as old novels," said Sringeri. Abdur, one of the organisers of the book fest, said that he is participating in the Garuda Literature Festival for the third time. "Many books are available at 10 to 30 percent discount," said Abdur.

Shanmugam, a senior citizen, while ruing the fact that the current generation is not evincing interest in reading books said the literature festival is a place to get books of all genres.

At the exhibition, one can browse through a curated selection of around 20,000 books by various authors in many languages at the 15 stalls, hone their craft, and unleash their creativity with writing workshops and master classes led by experienced authors and industry professionals. The visitors can meet acclaimed authors like Dockie, Astha Anand, Jogi Girish Rao, Rudresh Jayaram, Jayaramachari, and Suprabha Shastry and hear them read from their latest works.

Sandalwood actress Sangeetha Sringeri inaugurating book fest at Garuda Mall on Friday

MARUTI SUZUKI

NEXA

YOU CANNOT MISS THIS.

Avail exciting offers on NEXA Range of Cars.

CREATE. INSPIRE.

VISIT YOUR NEAREST NEXA DEALERSHIP TO GET EXCITING OFFERS UP TO ₹ 87 000*

Scan to explore NEXA World

Scan to chat on WhatsApp

WEST BANGALORE: **NEXA NAGARBHAVI** (BIMAL AUTO AGENCY PH: 08030693069), **NEXA RAJAJINAGAR** (VARUN MOTORS PVT. LTD. PH: 8884000042), **NEXA RR NAGAR** (KALYANI MOTORS PH: 9590990011), **EAST BANGALORE:** **NEXA ORR MARATHALLI** (BIMAL AUTO AGENCY PH: 08030693069), **NEXA BANASWADI** (KALYANI MOTORS PH: 9590990011), **NEXA WHITEFIELD** (VARUN MOTORS PVT. LTD. PH: 9620827474), **NORTH BANGALORE:** **NEXA HEBBAL ORR** (VARUN MOTORS PVT. LTD. PH: 9513838777), **NEXA YELAHANKA** (MANDOVI MOTORS PVT. LTD. PH: 9886003030), **CENTRAL BANGALORE:** **NEXA MUSEUM ROAD** (PRATHAM MOTORS PH: 9880006006), **NEXA PALACE** (MANDOVI MOTORS PH: 9886003030), **SOUTH BANGALORE:** **NEXA ELECTRONIC CITY** (SURAKSHAA CAR CARE PVT. LTD. PH: 80-25732229, 8884442229), **NEXA JP NAGAR** (KALYANI MOTORS PH: 9590990011), **NEXA SARJAPUR ROAD** (PRATHAM MOTORS PH: 9008455550), **NEXA KORAMANGALA** (KATARIA AUTOMOBILES PVT. LTD. PH: 8046837002), **TUMKUR:** **NEXA SIRA ROAD** (SAKETH AUTOMOBILES PH: 9900500051).

Contact us at **1800-200-[6392], 1800-102-[NEXA]** and **visit www.nexaexperience.com** to book online.

*Terms & conditions apply. Features and accessories shown may not be part of standard fitment. Black glass shade on the vehicle is due to the lighting effect. Images used are for illustration purposes only. All offers are brought to you by NEXA dealers only. Offers may vary subject to the model and variant purchased. Maruti Suzuki reserves the right to withdraw offers at any point in time without any advance notice. All offers are applicable till 31st March'24 or till stocks last. Maruti Suzuki Smart Finance is now available pan-India. Maruti Suzuki Subscribe available only in selected cities.

RAJMOHAN SUDHAKAR

EVER CHANGING MOODS

Write to him at rajmohan.sudhakar@timesgroup.com

Electoral bonding

Neoliberal democracies and tech have something vicious in common. Both are short of one thing and revels in promising/dangling that one thing - transparency in transactions - to the citizen voter, or in case of tech, the subscriber/app user.

Governments snoop on perceived enemies using malicious tech (as some governments provide such tech to other governments). This does not fall in the ambit of any regulation or legal scrutiny, we are told, even as political parties in power fight/win elections riding on money provided by the ultra-rich.

Fact is the citizen voter has no rights left whatsoever to rein in these excesses in almost lawless no man's lands of tech and corporate bullying that is vogue today, in cahoots with corrupt politicos.

Transparency/accountability is relegated to scripture or epics, seldom part of governance evoked only for moral grandstanding, sermonising and petty political theatrics we are put through almost daily in this geography, as more such acts are being readied in the run up to the LS polls. Yet 'transparency' remains on paper in constitutional guarantees, that are now oftentimes overlooked as citizens are shortchanged on a massive scale.

At long last, the electoral bonds scheme turned out to be the bonding of crony capitalists and politicians for electoral prospects of the latter and ill-gotten business opportunities for the former.

It has been proved beyond doubt that there isn't a place for the tens of millions of ordinary citizens who help political parties form governments except in disenfranchising exercises that target specific communities for political polarisation and electoral gain such as the one notified now.

That a scheme involving such massive amounts of money was part of the 'electoral' process must shake the foundations of the world's largest democracy. More importantly, it sidestepped the citizens - when their fundamental right to know was trampled upon by corporate interests that fund the political party in power.

Well one could argue this isn't new and commonplace in modern politics, for instance in the United States or in the UK, or that political parties need money too to survive and fight for the politics that they represent. But in developed economies there isn't the massive imbalance that we have here when it comes to amassing such, in all probability, ill-gotten wealth.

The now invalid scheme that funded a political party for a full term in government - in this case, the ruling party for five years - legitimised the marriage of the crony capitalist and power-lusting politician, making a mockery of the

taxpaying and law-abiding citizen.

The apex court struck the dubious bonds down a full term after the political party in power, the BJP, encashed Rs 6,060 crore. Better late than never - prevention is better than cure: but ain't justice delayed justice denied? These sayings contextualise what transpired in the aftermath of the electoral bonds 'scam'.

If one were to glean by common sense what indeed had happened after the inception of the scheme, it has all the makings of an instrument to bring the wealthy amongst the electorate into submission as well, as though holding at least some of these business entities at knifepoint, putting their ventures at risk if they refused to buy these bonds.

The Trinamool Congress and the grand old Congress came in second and third as beneficiaries with bonds cashed worth Rs 1,609 crore and Rs 1,421 crore each, followed by BRS making Rs 1,214 crore, and other parties trailing barring the CPI(M) that did not receive any monies. Now that is curious for a political party in decline.

A stitch in time in the form of this expose by jurisprudence would have saved the nation an electoral term but we are well into the third term funded by this diabolic fundraiser now just an election away — the now unconstitutional scheme has made the ruling dispensation immensely rich to perhaps turn its fortunes in a series of elections not just one.

The question is, now that the illegality of the electoral bonds have been established by the law, what happens to the monies amassed?

Nevertheless, on the eve of another critical general election, what is made apparent is the forced quid pro quo.

Now that this gargantuan transaction of monies have further widened the space between the ordinary citizen and the power of state, and has glibly placed between them the moneyed who bought these bonds to further prop up the powers that be, critical questions linger.

In our electoral democracy when the wealthy/corporate entities that have bought bonds worth crores of rupees to help politicians - exceeding a thousand crore rupees in some cases as revealed by the data extracted by the Supreme Court from the State Bank of India - the line between the state and ultra-wealthy blurs even as the citizen is pushed into the sidelines.

That said, what purpose was 'electoral bonds' serving other than undermining the electoral process?

Pool uncool: Hygiene, privacy & now water

Unscientific construction of swimming pools in apartments across Bengaluru

Bangalore Mirror Bureau
mybangaloremirror
@timesgroup.com

TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

With the city hit by severe water scarcity, many swimming pools are being shut. Even the BWSSB recently warned swimming pool managements against using drinking water and they will be liable for penalty. The maintenance of swimming pools inside apartment complexes has become a challenge.

Rajendra D, resident of an apartment in Bengaluru South, said, "Pools are usually constructed in a closed enclosure to ensure privacy for female swimmers and to prevent dirt from accumulating near the pool area. But apartment builders in Bengaluru construct pools without any forethought on hygiene, privacy, and safety. For instance, in the building where my friend lives, the pool is situated beside an open walkway where dirt, dust, spitting, and even feces accumulated under the soles of pedestrians coming from all parts of the city are taken by bare-footed swimmers who come to swim in the pool, into the pool."

Citizens said that the pools are constructed in such a manner that they can be viewed from all corners of the apartment complex. "Lacking privacy, it is impossible for teenage girls and women to use it. Can the builder or its engineer who designed it be so gender-insensitive? As the pool is constructed in the open, there are chances of toddlers and children who play near it getting drowned. The above shortcoming raises several questions, like whether the BBMP gives any specific mandates to be followed by the builders while constructing the swimming pool? Is there any government agency to regulate and supervise the working of swimming pools constructed in apartment complexes in Bengaluru? Does the health officer of the BBMP inspect the swimming pool on a regular basis to know its condition?" he said.

Pools at many apartment complexes lack safety measures

Water scarcity hits

Bengaluru was once a city of lakes and tanks. Today, the only source of drinking water in the city is the Cauvery water pumped from the KRS dam and water drawn from borewells. Owners of apartments are now forced to think over whether it is worth it to maintain a swimming pool anymore.

"Water in the pool evaporates daily, and as a minimum water level has to be maintained for the swimming pool to be in working condition, the pool has to be filled with water regularly from the underground tank by pumping. Especially during summer, the severe heat will lead to excessive water evaporation, and even for an average pool, a minimum amount of 5-6,000 litres of drinking water has to be pumped per month. Maintaining a swimming pool is a criminal waste of our precarious natural resource especially in water scarce Bengaluru," claimed Sadananda D, a resident of Bengaluru north.

> **"Even for an average pool, a minimum amount of 5-6,000 litres has to be pumped per month**
>
> –Sadananda D, citizen

Water woes: How RO plants can help

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

The minimum bid amount is Rs 25,000 per month for each RO plant," said the BBMP executive engineer.

Among the 53 RO plants, Gottigere ward has 10 RO plants while Vasanthapura ward has nine RO plants. Kudlu ward has six RO plants, Yelachanahalli five RO plants, Agrahara, Naganathapura, Subramanyapura, Naganathapura, Kalena Agrahara and Begur wards have four RO plants each, Konanakunte ward two, and Uttarahalli and RBI Layout one RO plant each.

The last date for submitting the bids is April 14 and the bids will be opened at 4.30 pm on April 16. "The successful bidders have to pay the electricity bill every month. All the ROs are in working condition. The price for selling water at the RO

plants will be fixed after holding discussions with the successful bidders," the executive engineer noted.

It is alleged that around 600 RO plants across the city were being maintained by the supporters of politicians all these years without paying money to the BBMP. If all the RO plants in Bengaluru South are maintained and operated by the private people or agencies, the BBMP is expected to generate a revenue of Rs 1.59 crore per year from the 53 plants. The BBMP spent Rs 10 to Rs 20 lakh on each of the RO plants set up in the city.

Many of the 600 RO plants are not functioning due to poor maintenance and water-related problems. Some of them were shut as soon as they were inaugurated due to lack of water.

"There is no mechanism to test the quality of water supplied by the RO plants. Poor and middle-class families visit RO plants to fetch 20 litres of water by paying Rs 5 as it is cheaper than water supplied by private water suppliers," said Eswarappa of Right To Water.

Stating that supplying clean drinking water is the responsibility of the municipal authorities, Arun Prasad, a social activist, has said unhygienic conditions prevail at most of RO plants.

"There is no one to ensure replacing filters at RO plants. BBMP must allow people to fetch water from RO plants free of cost," he said.

CID to probe POCSO case involving BSY

The Karnataka government has decided to transfer the investigation of a case registered under the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act involving former Chief Minister and senior BJP leader BS Yediyurappa to the Criminal Investigation Department (CID), officials confirmed on Friday.

An order mandating the case's shift to the CID was issued by the office of Karnataka's Director General and Inspector General of Police, Alok Mohan. The directive specifically mentions that the case registered at Bengaluru City Sadashivanagar Police Station under crime number 0084/2024, involving sections of the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act 2012, is to be promptly transferred to the CID for further investigation. The order emphasises the immediate handover of the case file to the CID for the continuation of investigative proceedings.

Allegations against Yediyurappa pertain to an FIR lodged, concerning an alleged sexual assault on a minor girl. The incident reportedly occurred on February 2 in Bengaluru The FIR accuses the senior BJP leader of sexually assaulting the victim after forcibly taking her into a room. In response to the allegations, Yediyurappa denied any wrongdoing and asserted his readiness to face any legal proceedings. He clarified that he had initially attempted to assist a distressed woman and her daughter who had approached him near his residence. However, the situation escalated, leading to the filing of the FIR against him. **BMB**

Fallen trees, a grave concern

Burial ground visitors have to navigate remnants of trees that came crashing last monsoon

Five months after huge trees fell on to graves at burial ground on Nandi Durga Road, remnants are yet to be cleared

| Y Maheswara Reddy
c-y.reddy@timesgroup.com

TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

The Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) Forest Department officials are yet to clear fallen trees at Hazarath Sir Khazi Mohammed Abdul Khuddus Saheb Burial Ground on Nandi Durga Road even five months after lodging a complaint with them. The delay is causing a lot of inconvenience for people who want to visit graves or memorials of their near and dear ones.

Some of the graves were also damaged when a few huge trees came crashing last monsoon. Tree branches lying at the burial ground are causing a lot of inconvenience for senior citizens who come here from distant places like Tannery Road, Frazer Town and other areas to visit memorials of their relatives and friends.

Expressing concern over the delay, Iftekhar Ahmed, a resident of Frazer Town, who visits Jumma Masjid as well as the burial ground every week, said he finds it difficult to reach the memorial of his relatives due to the remnants of fallen trees. "I have complained to the person in-charge of the burial ground. I have also complained to the manager of the burial ground but nothing has been done till date. They are claiming that they have already informed the BBMP Forest Department," said Iftekhar Ahmed. Munawar, a resident of Frazer Town, said that he too finds it tough to reach the memorial of his relative. "I appeal to the BBMP Forest Department and the manager of the burial ground to clear the remnants of trees as early as possible," said Munawar.

Imtiyaz from Tannery Road said that he too tried his best to convince the burial ground incharge person to take measures to clear those fallen trees. "Those trees fell more than five months ago. It is not fair for the authorities concerned to delay in clearing the remnants," said Imtiyaaz.

When contacted, Syed Abdul Ali, in-charge of Hazarath Sir Khazi Mohammed Abdul Khuddus Saheb Burial Ground said that he has already sent a letter to the BBMP Forest Department officials requesting to clear the fallen tree branches.

BBMP Range Forest Officer Thimmappa assured BM that they would look into the matter. "I will direct the contractor assigned to attend to the problem without any delay," said the Forest Range Officer.

SAFE 2024
by WeMakeScholars
STUDYING ABROAD
requires courage, strength, good academics,
but most importantly MONEY...
STUDY ABROAD FUNDING EXPO
Attend tomorrow in Bengaluru, 17th Mar
at NIHMANS Convention Centre- from 11 AM to 7 PM
Hosted by WeMakeScholars, an organisation funded by Govt. of India under the Digital India Campaign
Seminar about 26,000+ Scholarships by former Scholarship winners
Compare 15 banks & get Instant Education Loan pre-approval Letter with the Lowest Interest Rate in India
CALL / SCAN HERE TO REGISTER
988 988 1070
FREE ENTRY
INDIA'S LARGEST
EDUCATION FINANCE PLATFORM
www.wemakescholars.com
WE MAKE SCHOLARS

BMTC scraps 645 buses

Amid financial constraints, city's transport corporation decommissions buses and adopts innovative refurbishment approach

Sridhar Vivan
sridhar.vivan@timesgroup.com
TWEETS @sridharvMirror

Despite complaints, the Bangalore Metropolitan Transport Corporation (BMTC) claims that it has scrapped 645 buses so far. Providing data in the recently held legislative council, Transport Minister N Ramalinga Reddy said, "BMTC has a fleet comprising 6,147 buses, consisting of 5,643 diesel buses and 504 electric buses. As of February 7, 2023, a total of 645 buses have been decommissioned in BMTC, labelled as 'scrap' by the technical wing of the organisation. These scrapped vehicles undergo a process where their registration numbers are cancelled by the Regional Transport Office (RTO). Subsequently, the details of these decommissioned buses are forwarded to the depots and are auctioned off via the MSTC portal, with the buses being sold to the highest bidder."

An official stated that during the Covid-19 pandemic, the corporation faced severe financial challenges due to the cessation of all vehicle operations owing to the lack of passengers. "Following the pandemic, despite a surge in passenger demand, the corporation encountered difficulties in acquiring new vehicles due to financial constraints. In response, the corporation devised an innovative strategy to refurbish its ageing vehicles, which had covered distances ranging from 9 to 10 lakh kilometres and exhibited body defects since June 2022," the official said.

The official further added that this refurbishment initiative commenced at two regional workshops located in Bangalore and Hassan. The refurbished vehicles have been well-received by passengers, displaying a level of appeal comparable to new vehicles.

"Consequently, this refurbishment effort has expanded to encompass divisions as well. To date, a total of 510 old vehicles, comprising 385 vehicles from the two regional workshops and 125 vehicles from 13 divisions, have undergone refurbishment. These rejuvenated vehicles are capable of operating for an additional 3 to 4 lakh kilometres or the remaining lifespan of the vehicles, showcasing the corporation's commitment to embracing modern methodologies and technologies. Specifically, the Regional Workshop in Bangalore has successfully refurbished 192 vehicles, while the Regional Workshop in Hassan has refurbished 193 vehicles," the official said.

"Additionally, 125 vehicles have undergone refurbishment at various divisions and are currently in operation. The corporation has also extended the operation of its older vehicles, covering distances ranging from 8 to 9 lakh kilometres, with plans to further prolong their operation for an additional 4 to 5 lakh kilometres," he said.

Meanwhile, Reddy said that in 2023, BMTC received approval for the procurement of 820 BS6 diesel buses, 320 electric buses, 120 AC electric buses, and 10 double-decker AC buses under the GCC model. Furthermore, plans are underway in the current financial year to acquire 840 BS6 diesel buses and a variety of other buses under GCC, including 921 electric buses, 120 feeder buses, five double-decker buses (NCAP), and five double-decker AC buses (DULT).

> **"As of February 7, a total of 645 buses have been decommissioned in BMTC, labelled as 'scrap' by the technical wing of the organisation**
> – N Ramalinga Reddy, Transport Minister

"Looking ahead, BMTC aims to enhance its operational efficiency by implementing advanced technologies such as vehicle tracking and monitoring systems, along with passenger information systems. Once these systems are fully integrated into the fleet, bus stands will feature dynamic information boards providing real-time updates on bus arrivals and departures. Furthermore, BMTC is actively exploring avenues to augment its non-fare revenue streams. Currently, the organisation manages 425 commercial shops, which generated revenue of Rs 85,17,55,738 in the financial year 2023-24, up to December 2023", Reddy said.

Additionally, the collective workforce of the four transport corporations totals 1,02,086 individuals. Karnataka State Road Transport Corporation (KSRTC) employs the largest share of employees, with 33,844 personnel, followed by BMTC with 28,840, North Western Karnataka Road Transport Corporation (NWKRTC) with 21,063, and Kalyana Karnataka Road Transport Corporation (KKRTC) with 18,339 employees.

Kasavanahalli Lake chokes, locals respond

Iffath Fathima
Iffath.Fathima@timesgroup.com
TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

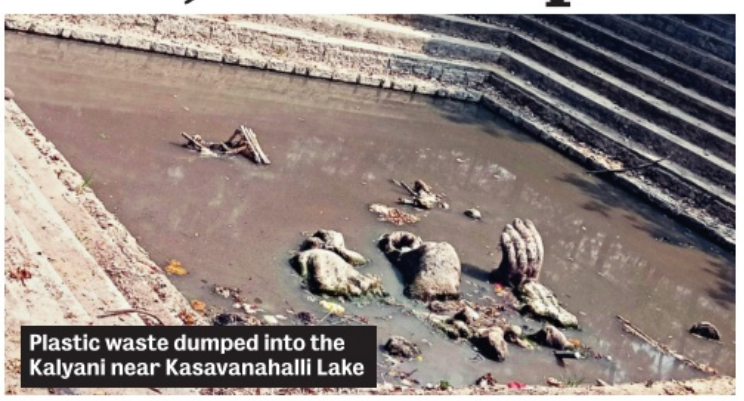
Kasavanahalli Lake, a vital ecological gem in the heart of the city, is facing dire circumstances due to neglect and recent theft. Residents have voiced their dismay over the deteriorating condition of the lake, highlighting the absence of proper maintenance measures. The situation escalated when the motor, crucial for watering plants, was stolen, leaving a significant portion of the lake's flora parched and neglected.

With the growing concerns, a collaborative effort between Bhumi NGO and The Indian Ploggers Army, under CSR was initiated. Raj, a member of the Ploggers Army, said, "The state of Kasavanahalli Lake is alarming. Our efforts to clean the surroundings were hindered by the sight of dried saplings and plastic pollution."

The cleanup drive, which commenced at 10 am and concluded by noon, witnessed an inspiring turnout of over 40 volunteers, demonstrating a collective commitment to environmental stewardship. Despite the challenges, an impressive 86 kilograms of trash were meticulously cleared from the vicinity, reflecting the dedication of the participants.

While the lake is fortunate to still retain some water, a critical issue persists with the stolen motor hindering the irrigation of vital saplings. "The absence of proper watering mechanisms has led to the distressing sight of withered plants," remarked a concerned volunteer.

Plastic pollution, particularly in the form of Multi-layer plastics (MLP) covers, further exacerbates the challenges faced by Kasavanahalli Lake. This apart there was deterioration of the Kalyani that had been left from many months and the volunteers stated that it needed immediate attention to get cleaned,

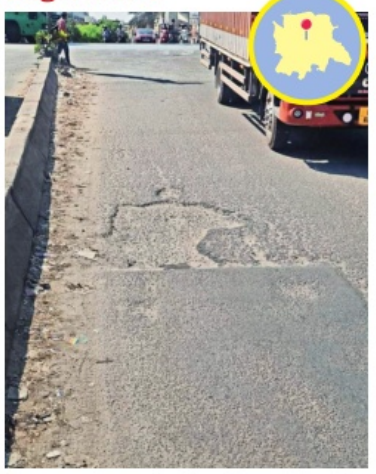


Plastic waste dumped into the Kalyani near Kasavanahalli Lake

"Despite valiant cleanup efforts, the persistent scattering of plastic debris underscores the need for sustained vigilance and community engagement. The Kalyani has been in a very bad state and could lead to health hazards if left in that state for long. We cleared out the idols from it however the state is still bad," Added Raj.

whatsapp MIRROR
9591233247
Problems in your area?
Send us a picture along with specific details. And please, no phone calls or spamming

Pothole perils
Nagarbhavi



The roads encircling Nagarbhavi Ring Road Circle have endured numerous potholes for an extended period, causing inconvenience to residents and commuters alike.

Neglected waste
Yelachenahalli

Trash littered along the roadside, particularly on Ashram Road and YV Anniyan Road, highlights negligence of waste disposal practices in the area.

Lake languish
Kaggalipura

The once vibrant Kaggalipura Lake, on Kanakapura Main Road, now presents a dismal sight, devoid of water, birdlife, and fish.

Bengalureans' love for biryani is unmatched

Bengaluru, often referred to as the Silicon Valley of India, is not just a hub for technology but also a melting pot of cultures and cuisines. One culinary delight that captures the hearts and palates of Bengalureans is biryani. This aromatic and flavourful dish, with its roots in Persian and Mughlai cuisine, has found a special place in the hearts of the city's residents. In fact, Bengaluru is one of the very few places in the country where one can eat different types of biryanis.

Sreeja D, a college student, said, "Bengaluru is home to people from various parts of India and even different countries. This cultural diversity brings with it a rich diversity of culinary traditions. As food plays a crucial role in cultural identity, Bengalureans have developed a deep appreciation for the diverse styles of biryanis originating from regions like Hyderabad, Lucknow, Kerala, and beyond. Hence, Bengaluru's cosmopolitan nature exposes us to a wide range of cuisines, and biryani, with its myriad flavours and variations, has become a unifying dish loved by all."

Biryani has become synonymous with celebrations, gatherings, and special occasions in Bengaluru. Whether it's a family get-together, a festival celebration, or a corporate event, biryani often takes center stage on the dining table, bringing people together over a shared love for this indulgent dish. "In Bengaluru, biryani is not just a dish; it's a symbol of togetherness and joy. Whenever there's a reason to celebrate,

biryani is our go-to choice," said Syed Mohammed, a resident of Fraser Town.

Food experts say that Bengaluru boasts a vibrant food scene with numerous restaurants and eateries offering a wide array of biryanis. From quaint local joints to high-end establishments, there's a biryani for every palate and preference. This thriving restaurant culture has fueled the popularity of biryani among Bengalureans, who love exploring new flavors and dining experiences. "The restaurant landscape in Bengaluru is incredibly diverse, and biryani is a staple on almost every menu. It's fascinating to see how each place puts its unique spin on this classic dish. Moreover, Bengalureans have a penchant for bold flavours and aromatic spices. Biryani, with its carefully curated blend of spices like cardamom, cloves, cinnamon, and saffron, perfectly aligns with the city's love for vibrant and complex taste profiles," said Dinesh Gowda, a techie.

"I have grown up in Bengaluru, and our love for biryani is deeply rooted in our love for spices and flavors. The burst of aromas and tastes in each bite is simply irresistible. The food scene in Bengaluru is dynamic and ever-evolving, with chefs and home cooks constantly experimenting and innovating. This spirit of exploration extends to biryani as well, leading to fusion varieties, vegetarian options, and creative twists that cater to diverse preferences and dietary choices. As a chef, I am inspired by Bengaluru's curiosity and openness to trying new things. Our biryani festivals and innovative biryani pop-ups showcase the city's adventurous spirit when it comes to food," said Keshav Kumar, a chef.

Bengaluru's love affair with biryani can be attributed to its cultural diversity, social significance, vibrant restaurant culture, love for spices, and a spirit of culinary exploration. "Savouring different types of biryanis , Bengalureans cherish the diversity and richness that biryani brings to their dining experiences," Gowda added. —BMB

ADVERTORIAL

Savour the enduring flavors of classic Nati cuisine, brought to you by the legendary RNR Biryani

Let your family and social gatherings this year, be a celebration of taste with our timeless Donne Biryani. For us, at RNR Biryani, food is central to the rhythm of life, whether it be a social gathering, an auspicious occasion, or any other day.

Come and join us with your family and friends, to experience this glorious culinary heritage... and indulge yourself with the stimulating aromas and the unforgettable flavours of our specialty Donne Style Biryani, crafted specially for you. Carefully preserved and practiced over the last 60 years since its inception, our Grand Mother's recipe of our specialty Donne style Biryani has always been an affair of eventful gatherings, bringing people together, signifying happiness and freedom.

Rasmalai Cremeux

Let us, bring alive for you, this heritage culinary experience of authentic Nati cuisine. Let our iconic dishes like Mutton Nalli Fry, Nati Style Chilli Chicken, Bombat Chicken Leg Chilli, Bale Ele Pomfret, Nati Koli Drumstick Fry and RNR Special Chicken Boneless Biryani, take your taste buds to a new level of culinary bliss, like you have never experienced before. Our vegetarian offerings include some mouth-watering dishes like the Nati Kothimeera Soup, Drumstick Chilli, Baby Corn Pudina Dry, and several other delights. Each of our carefully crafted offerings is preserved in true traditional style and blended with a modern makeover, keeping in mind authenticity, modern experience, and convenience..

Drumstick chilli

To bring you an unparalleled dine-In experience, we are present at Jayanagar and RT Nagar. You can also celebrate at home with your loved ones, by connecting with their cloud kitchens, which are available at 16 locations across Bangalore. Come, join us, and make each one of your get-togethers with your near and dear ones, an occasion to savour for life.

For more information, contact: RNR Biryani Phone No: +91 97427 21949

Bidadi next big bet for Bengaluru

With the establishment of entertainment zones, recreational facilities, and hospitality options, Bidadi is attracting visitors from Bengaluru and beyond...

Bidadi is undergoing a transformative journey, poised to become an integral part of greater Bengaluru. The catalyst for this transformation is the Bengaluru-Mysuru expressway, which has significantly reduced travel time and enhanced connectivity between Bidadi and Bengaluru. This, coupled with the presence of hundreds of industries, emerging entertainment zones, and ongoing infrastructure projects, has put Bidadi on the map as a burgeoning hub with immense potential. Let's delve into the reasons behind Bidadi's rapid integration into greater Bengaluru and hear what experts and stakeholders have to say about this evolution.

"The Bengaluru-Mysuru expressway has brought Bidadi closer to Bengaluru, making it a viable residential and commercial destination. The reduced travel time has attracted investors and homebuyers looking for accessible locations with good connectivity. Bidadi has witnessed a surge in industrial development, with numerous companies setting up operations in the area. This influx of industries has created employment opportunities and contributed to the economic growth of Bidadi, positioning it as a thriving business district. The business environment in Bidadi is thriving, thanks to the infrastructural improvements and connectivity enhancements. Many industries see Bidadi as a strategic location for growth and expansion," said Manjunath N, a resident of Bidadi.

Bidadi is not just about work; it is also evolving as an entertainment and leisure destination. With the establishment of entertainment zones, recreational facilities, and hospitality options, Bidadi is attracting visitors from Bengaluru and beyond, adding vibrancy to its social and cultural landscape. "We see Bidadi as a promising market for entertainment and leisure activities. The influx of tourists and locals looking for recreational options has spurred our investment in developing entertainment zones in the area. The ongoing infrastructure projects in Bidadi are further enhancing its appeal as part of greater Bengaluru. From road expansions to the development of civic amenities like schools, hospitals, and shopping complexes, Bidadi is undergoing a facelift that promises a higher quality of life for its residents," said Pradeep G, a resident of Bidadi.

Prakash VL

BM Property
Every Saturday
Contact for advertisement
Mahesh Malagi
9886721857

MAGNOLIA
Your once in a Lifetime Opportunity is now knocking!
GREAT Investment, HIGH Appreciation
GOOD Rental Income
VISIT
SPOT BOOKING
SPOT BENEFITS
LAUNCHING
16th - 17th March, 2024
Ready to Move In
ಮ್ಯಾಗ್ನೋಲಿಯಾ
MAGNOLIA
Cedar Court
BIDADI BANGALORE NEXT
APPROVED BMRDA APPROVED
PART OF
110 ACRES
OF INTEGRATED LIVING
1 & 2 BHK Residential Apartment in BIDADI Town.
for everyone & every budget.
Approved by all Leading banks | PRM/KA/RERA/1250/302/PR/181226/002263 | Commencement Certificate Receiv
www.magnoliaprojects.in
call: 84949 11199

Big push for real estate in 2024

Real estate is set to see a big push in 2024. Anuj Puri, Chairman Anarock group said that in 2023, the residential real estate market experienced extraordinary growth, as new launches and home sales reached record highs. In 2023, sales of housing in the top seven cities reached an all-time high of about 4.77 lakh units, while sales of newly launched homes reached almost 4.46 lakh units. "The real estate industry's outlook for 2024 is currently positive, but the results of the upcoming general elections will also have a significant impact on the demand for and growth in residential real estate", Puri said.

ANAROCK Research finds that the previously much-touted budget homes category saw a decline in overall sales - to approximately 20% in 2023 from over 30% in 2022, and nearly 40% in the period before to the pandemic. Not surprisingly, this segment's percentage of the total housing supply in the top 7 cities also fell to 18% in 2023 from nearly 40% in 2019. Several interest stimulants that were offered to developers and consumers in this market over the years have expired in the last one to two years. It is imperative to revive and extend significant benefits, such as tax breaks, to encourage developers to construct more affordable housing and to make it possible for customers to acquire such homes", Puri said adding that the government needs to take a hard look at adjusting the qualifying cost of properties within cities' affordable housing segment. Although the units' defined size of 60 square metres is reasonable, the prices of up to Rs 45 lakh make them unaffordable to a huge share of the target clientele.

Meanwhile, Knight Frank India's Affordability Index reveals that the EMI to income ratio for households in Bengaluru has slightly improved in 2023, following a brief decline in affordability in 2022. Although marginally better than the previous year, home affordability has significantly improved since the pre-pandemic year of 2019. The expected moderation in inflation and a projected downward trend in interest rates are anticipated to further enhance home affordability in 2024. In 2010, Bengaluru's affordability matrix stood at 48%, which gradually decreased to 32% in 2019, 26% in 2021, 27% in 2022, and maintained at 26% in 2023. When considering affordability across major cities, Bengaluru ranks as the fourth most expensive market in 2023, with an affordability index of 26%. This reflects a marginal improvement of 1% from 2022 and a 6% improvement from 2019. The data suggests a positive trend in housing affordability in Bengaluru, making it a notable aspect for potential homebuyers in the city. Shishir Baijal, Chairman and Managing Director, Knight Frank India, said, "Anticipating stable GDP growth and moderation in inflation in FY 2024-25, affordability is expected to strengthen."

Property market booming in city periphery

The Kanakapura road-Uttarahalli sections are seeing a big growth in property development. The serene surroundings, coupled with easy accessibility to the city centre is making these places an ideal choice for homeowners and investors alike. "One of the key reasons to invest here is the potential for substantial appreciation in property value over time. The rapid development and infrastructural growth in South Bengaluru are driving up property demand, making it a lucrative investment opportunity", said Shivananda Gowda, a realtor.

For property buyers, amenities play a very important role. "Amenities such as street lights, compound walls, round-the-clock security, and a clubhouse in any residential project. These amenities not only enhance the quality of life for residents but also add significant value to the property. Street lights ensure safety and visibility, especially during the evenings, while a well-built compound wall provides security and privacy for homeowners. In today's world, security is paramount. Having trained security personnel and robust security systems in place instills confidence among residents and protects their investments," added Gowda.

"Amenities like a clubhouse added convenience to our lifestyle. We could host events, use the gym, and relax by the pool, all within our residential complex. Homes with well-maintained amenities, such as a clubhouse with modern facilities, tend to attract buyers and command higher resale prices. Investing in a property with these amenities is not just about comfort but also long-term financial gains. The combination of location advantage, potential for appreciation, and amenities makes it a wise investment choice," said Sandhya Joseph, a property buyer.

Prakash VL

Hotspot Nelamangala

Nelamangala is turning out to be a preferred destination for property buyers due to several compelling factors that make it an attractive investment opportunity. From excellent connectivity and infrastructure to job prospects and affordability, Nelamangala has become a hotspot.Nelamangala boasts excellent connectivity, especially in terms of public transport. The presence of BMTC bus services ensures smooth commuting for residents. T"Our properties in Nelamangala have seen a surge in demand due to the excellent BMTC bus connectivity. Buyers appreciate the ease of travel and accessibility to major areas in Bengaluru, making it a top choice for residential investment. The announcement of future Metro services extending till Tumakuru has significantly boosted Nelamangala's appeal. The prospect of enhanced connectivity through Metro services adds immense value to properties in the area, attracting both investors and homebuyers. The planned extension of Metro services till Tumakuru is a game-changer for Nelamangala's real estate market. Buyers are keen on properties near Metro stations, anticipating increased convenience and connectivity, which ultimately adds to the property's value", said Nandeesh Aradhya, a realtor.

Nelamangala's strategic location near the satellite ring road gives residents with seamless access to major highways and thoroughfares. This advantage not only facilitates smooth commuting but also enhances the area's potential for commercial and residential development. "I chose Nelamangala for its proximity to the satellite ring road, making it easy for me to travel to work and other parts of city. Accessibility was a key consideration in my decision to invest in a property here. The job prospects in Nelamangala have been a significant driver for property demand. Many buyers are professionals working in nearby industries, seeking a convenient option close to their workplaces," said Subhash Prabhu, a property buyer.

HAPPY VALLEY
Banashankari 5th phase
UTTARAHALLI
FOR SALE
PREMIUM PLOTS
BDA approved layout
Easily Accessible
Good sewage systems
Safe Neighborhood
Dimensions : Starts from 30x50 sqft
₹ 16,000/- Per sqft South facing
₹ 17,000/- Per sqft North facing
AMENITIES
Electricity
Street Lights
Compound Wall
Round the clock Security
Club House
Park
PROXIMITY
Happy Valley & National Public school - 500 mtrs
BGS Hospital - 3 kms
Metrostation : Konankunte- 3kms
Mysore road - 4kms
Scan for Location
for more information contact
90083 14645

Off NH-4 ನೆಲಮಂಗಲ ರೋಡ್
Residential Approved
Clear Title
DC Conversion
₹1299/- per sqft
Pay Only 30% Down Payment, Balance Amount Pay in 36 Month Interest Free Easy EMI
Upcoming METRO
BMTC Bus Available to Layout
ಸೊಂಡೆಕೊಪ್ಪದಲ್ಲಿ ಸೈಟ್ಸ್‌ಗಳು ಲಭ್ಯ
Residential Approved
Rs. 1899/- per sq ft
Offer Price
Rs. 1799/- per sq ft
ನೋಂದಣಿ ಹಾಗೂ ನಿರ್ಮಾಣಕ್ಕೆ ಸಿದ್ಧವಿದೆ
Loans Available from all Nationalised Banks
20x30, 30x40 & 40x60
*Conditions Apply
ನಿವೇಶನ ನೋಡಲು ಕರೆಮಾಡಿ
Free Family Site Visit
8151 88 33 88

mybangaloremirror@timesgroup.com
facebook.com/bangaloremirror
@BangaloreMirror

BENGALURU SPEAKS

and gets heard on this page

STORYBEHINDTHEPHOTO

PEEK-A-BOO

An Indian Gaur peeps from behind a bush in Gopinatham.

The picture was clicked by reader **NJ Ravi Chander**

If you have a picture and a story to share, send us the picture with your name and number at **mybangaloremirror@timesgroup.com**

Local heroes: Fixing roads, done waiting

Despite repeated complaints, residents of Holiday Village Road step up to repair road and drainage damages neglected by authorities

Iffath Fathima
Iffath.Fathima
@timesgroup.com

TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

The locals have complained that the lorry bringing asphalt to Holiday Village Road damaged the portion near the government primary school. They request the authorities to restore the damaged section. However, since the authorities did not bother to repair it, the residents themselves took the initiative and completed the job today.

For the past two days, it has been left open despite multiple complaints, with the civic body assuring it would be rectified today, but no one turned up.

Raveendranatha, the president of Anand Aster apartment on Holiday Village Road, Kanakapura Main Road, stated, "The drainage cover slab opposite the government school has been broken due to heavy vehicles moving on it. We requested immediate restoration from the road contractor, as the vehicle was carrying tar, but it was not done. Since it was just opposite the government school, we felt the need to fix this broken drainage as soon as possible. So we restored it with the help of some local people."

Due to the risk posed by leaving the drainage open, especially during the night, the residents decided to have it fixed.

"The negligence of the authorities is disappointing. We shouldn't have to resort to fixing these issues ourselves. Our tax money should guarantee basic services like road maintenance and safety," added a resident.

Raveendranatha further stated, "The residents themselves came forward to fix it. We noticed a cement slab lying near the apartment, retrieved it, and used it to fix the drainage. As many children play around, it is dangerous for it to remain open. However, this is a temporary fix, and the authorities should take up these issues seriously and have them fixed permanently."

Citizens fixing the broken drainage slab

DID YOU KNOW?

Lalbagh Park, graced by ancient rock formations, showcases some of India's most ancient geological marvels. These rocks, shaped like hills, carry a legacy dating back an astonishing 2.5 to 3.4 billion years. Recognised as a national geological monument by the Geological Survey of India, they serve as a testament to Bengaluru's rich geological history. Visitors to the park are captivated by the sight of these enduring formations, marvelling at the aeons of time they represent. Despite the passage of millennia, the allure of Lalbagh's geological wonders remains undiminished. Lalbagh stands as a cherished symbol of Bengaluru's natural heritage.

GET HEARD WITH MIRROR

9591233247

Let's see how much you know about Namma Bengaluru, folks. Tell us something incredible and mind-boggling about this beautiful city and our editors and researchers will check it out. If it's credible, we'll give it a shout-out, with your name and picture.

TAPTHECHATTER

where Bengalureans speak their mind

Which specific tech advancements in Bangalore make it stand out and contribute to its "best city" status

Pavana, BM Reader
The Bengaluru Tech Summit, Asia's largest technology event, stands as a testament to the city's commitment to fostering technological advancements. This summit serves as a platform for both startups and established companies.

Shilpa, BM Reader
The city's robust technological infrastructure and dynamic entrepreneurial spirit contribute substantially to its appeal, positioning it as a thriving hub of innovation and opportunity.

Shailaja, BM Reader
The city's burgeoning startup ecosystem, particularly in digital technology, offers unparalleled opportunities for exploration and growth. Bearing witness to Bengaluru's dynamic and forward-thinking ethos is truly captivating.

Prajwal Teja, BM Reader
Bengaluru's evolution into India's IT epicentre and its reputation as a hub for engineering colleges illustrate its transformative journey over the years.

Tejas N, BM Reader
Renowned as the Silicon Valley of India, Bengaluru stands at the forefront of technological innovation in the country. Its rich ecosystem of research institutes and technology companies has played a pivotal role in driving its technological advancements.

Siddarth, BM Reader
Bengaluru's prominence as a technological powerhouse is underscored by its hosting of the Bengaluru Tech Summit, a premier event in Asia's technology calendar. This summit serves as a platform for companies to showcase their cutting-edge innovations.

SPEAK TO US

Why do many people prefer bikes over cars in the city, and is it safe?

If you want to be featured in this section, mail us your answer to this question, in 25 words, with 'Tap The Chatter' in the subject line. Mail us with your name, occupation & a picture at mybangaloremirror@timesgroup.com or WhatsApp us on 9591233247

Bengaluru-Chikkballapur highway best bet for properties

The Bengaluru-Chikkaballapur-Hyderabad highway is not just a favourite destination for tourists nad property buyers but also for new experiments. Now, this highway has been chosen for the experiment of laying of optical fibre cable all along the highway. The pilot project has been taken up in Bengaluru-Hyderabad highway. According to the Centre, two pilot projects of laying Optical Fiber Cable (OFC)along Delhi - Mumbai Expressway and Hyderabad -Bangalore Highway, totaling to 1,880 km have been taken up. Based on the experience and learning of these two-pilot projects and outcome of feasibility studies, a program of OFC laying a network of National Highway (both Greenfield and Brownfield) in the country would be framed. Currently, OFC laying in the Hyderabad - Bangalore section (512 kms) has been approved at a capital cost of Rs 156.38 cr. The work has been awarded on 23rd September, 2022

"The infrastructural development projects in and around Chikkaballapur are aligning it with the standards of greater Bengaluru. The focus on improving road networks, utilities, and public facilities is attracting both developers and residents to invest in the area," said a realtor. Chikkaballapur's evolution has sparked interest in its real estate market, with developers launching residential and commercial projects to cater to the growing demand. "Our projects in Chikkaballapur have garnered immense interest from buyers and investors looking for affordable yet well-connected properties. The transformation of Chikkaballapur into part of greater Bengaluru has positioned it as a hotspot for real estate investment. With stakeholders optimistic about its growth trajectory, Chikkaballapur is on a trajectory to become a dynamic extension of Bengaluru," said Suresh M, a realtor.

Realtors said Chikkaballapur's real estate market stands out for its affordability combined with good connectivity.

-- Prakash VL

Booming flats at Hosakerehalli

The areas between Mysuru road and Kankapura road have emerged as a hotspot for luxury living.

Rajesh Kumar, a realtor said, "Over the past few years, we have witnessed a surge in demand for luxury living spaces in Hosakerehalli," he explained. Amrita Kumar, a home maker said, "I was looking for a blend of convenience, comfort, and sophistication in my new home. The places in and around Hosakerehalli ticked all the boxes." Hemanth N, a realtor said, buyers are looking beyond amenities and seeking features that offer a lifestyle upgrade.

How civic body plans to tackle illegal ads

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Court had directed that for each new hoarding or advertisement reported to be erected, a sum of Rs 1 lakh would have to be submitted. The state and the BBMP were to contribute 50-50 per cent share of the imposed amount.

However, concerns were raised whether the illegal advertisement would return to the initial owner.

"We will be selling the seized advertisements to the agency and they can use it as per their discretion. We will be paying a set rate for every seized product. The BBMP will regularly ask the agency to remove unauthorised advertisements," said a senior BBMP official.

The measure is expected to generate revenue for the BBMP from illegal advertisements in the city.

Activists are of the view that this is an added burden on the taxpayer. "Firstly, hoardings are banned. Now, they are appointing an agency to remove it using taxpayer's money. The measure may not be helpful for the Bengaluru public," said Datta Saraf, a civic activist.

Chance to be Kere Mitra, till March 25

Following low participation for Kere Mitra, the BBMP has extended the deadline for submission for application by 10 days. The last deadline for applying for Kere Mitra is March 25.

Initially, the deadline for the second round was 15 March but they have only seen 72 applications for the remaining 62 lakes. Now, BBMP's Lake department has extended the deadline to March 25 before 5 pm. The project spans across 186 lakes out of 205 lakes.

In the initial round, they received nearly 700 applications, and 124 were chosen. One volunteer is chosen for one lake for 3 months. In cases, with multiple applications for the same lake, BBMP applied a system-generated randomisation process. Post 3 months, the other volunteers who applied for the same lake will be chosen. Applications can be made at the BBMP website and then Kere Mitras will be chosen.

Now, BBMP has opened the application for lakes that received a single application and zero applications. Kere Mitras will be given a user ID and password for the Lake Monitoring System created to ensure transparency. **BMB**

Your Connect

jobs

SITUATION VACANT

ACADEMIC

TEACHER

EUROKIDS Bommasandra, Silicon Suncity Layout Requires Centre Head, Teachers With Good Communication Skill.Exp/ Fresher Call: 6361268750

MARKETING, ADVERTISING & SALES

SALES

MANGALORE-JEWELS JPNagar, a leading jewellery firm at south bangalore Reqd - Sales Executives,Age: 25 -30yrs Min 2 yrs Exp in a jewellery stores,knowing Kannada, English, Hindi,Tulu,Tamil,Teluguwillbe highly preferred. salary 30k or higher. M.J.Vikram: 9880299462

OTHER VACANCIES

MULTIPLE VACANCIES

ONE OF THE FAST - EMERGING EPC (Engineering, Procurement and Construction)
Organisation headquartered in Bangalore requires the following personnel for their Head office:

Account Officers:
3-5+ Year's Experience

Civil Engineers:
3-5+ Year's Experience

Electrical Engineers:
3-5+ Year's Experience

All above position, computer literacy is must
Right candidate will be offered attractive salary. PI, Apply in confidence along with your latest photograph, present salary and expected salary to:
saishirdi1970@gmail.com
Shirdisai Technologies & Construction Private Limited BTM 2nd Stage Bangalore

real estate

BANGALORE PROPERTIES

BANNERGHATTA ROAD

PURVA SMILING WILLOWS: PURVA SYMPHONY, 3 & 4 BHK VILLA'S ready to occupy off Bannerghatta road, For more details Call - 99007 77099.

HBR LAYOUT

30/40 SEMI COMMERCIAL BDA property for sale in HBR Layout 5th Block, Bangalore. Connect: Trinity Ventures - 94492 87000.

INDIRA NAGAR

1st Floor Commercial space 3700Sqft Available for RENT HothurSquare, # 284, 100ft Road, Indiranagar, Bangalore -38 Contact :9036928809 Email:muniraju@hothurindia.com.

RENT- Office 6250 Sqft fully furnished office building for rent in the heart of Indiranagar, Bengaluru. Call 9845059720

INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT - AROUND

2400 SQFT BIAPPA SITE
EAST FACING
ON IVC ROAD
Rs.1600 PER SQFT
9901 666 789

KENGERI

30X40 East fcing BDA apprvd corner site. Rs 8000/sft. 5 mins from challaghatta metro stn. Genuine buyers only. Brokers excuse 9686111709

KORAMANGALA

SALE: BDA Residential corner property 833 sqft in Koramangala 4th block, 3 shops on GF & 1 BHK apts on upper 3 floors. Good rent - 98803 47774.

NAGARBHAVI

Luxurious Lake view FLATS

3 BHK (2450 sft) high end, All teak & bath fittings, E.Facing BBMP A Katha Near Deepa Complex Nagarbhavi, 1.55 cr (Nego), 2 carpark, Terrace Party hall-9449719008, 9448462661

RMV EXTENSION

GOING_CHEAP, Bhoopasandra, RMV 2nd stage, BDA approved, Clear Titles. 4300 sft commercial property for sale, Contact: 9448064359.

VISVESWARAIAH LAYOUT

30X40 SF A khatha site in 8th block. 11500/sft. Next to NPS west. Genuine buyers only. Brokers excuse. Immediate regn 9686111709

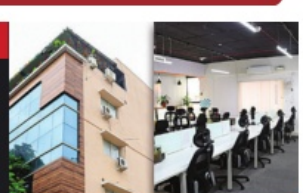
FOR SALE

BANGALORE

2-BHK FLAT For Sale @ Old Baiyappanahalli, 36 Lakhs Offer! Cont- 91-9611553352/9008133998 Near SMVT Rly Stn

PRIME PROPERTY

TOLET
Fully Furnished & Managed Office & Restaurant Spaces Available For Rent @ HSR LAYOUT



Property located 1184, 5th Main Rd, Rajiv Gandhi Nagar, HSR Layout, Bengaluru, Karnataka 560068

KEY FEATURES Prime Location, Fully Furnished, Managed Services, Customizable, Modern Amenities & Affordable Rates.

Call us Now:
+91 9740017163 • +91 6376727371 • +91 9902216281

PROPERTY ANCILLARIES

LEASE & RENT

FOR Rent- Bangalore CBD 6000, 12000, 40000 sq.ft. Commercial Space near Bangalore Race Course 9606431007/ 9606436007

business

INVESTMENT

WANTED Layout Finance / Investment For 12 Acres & 4 Acres Lands For Layout JD & other opportunities 18 Months Period. Call: 99451 09944

services

REPAIRS/ WATERPROOFING

'WE FIX' Modern Technology Waterproofing, Roof, Sump, Bathroom, Sky Light, Painting, Tiling, Heat Resistant Coating, House Painting. Ph: 9448572697

personal

CHANGE OF NAME

I, Apoorva Bhat Ganapathi R/o No.31/13, Hora Residency, 6th cross, 1st main, Poorna Prajna Lyt. Subramanyapura, Bengaluru 560061 have changed my name to APOORVA BHAT affidavit Dt.15/03/2024 notary Harisha G, B'luru

I, DAFARE RAKESH BHANUDAS, Residing at No.139, Bettadasanapura Main Road, Chamundeshwari Lyt, Electronic City Phase 2, Bengaluru, Karnataka - 560100, have changed my name to RAKESH BHANUDASJI DAFARE, vide affidavit dated 14/03/2024, sworn before notary Venkataraju H G, Bangalore.

I, Shobhitha Shanthakumari Rosario Rajakumar W/o Prem Peter Charles Aged About 42 Years R/at Flat No.C2, 2nd Floor, Diamond Regency, Doddagubbi, B'luru-560077 have changed my name to Shobhitha Santhakumari Rosario Rajakumar Vide Affidavit Dtd:14/03/2024 Sworn Before Notary Uday Kumar K, B'luru

I, VIJAYALAKSHMI CHANDRASHEKAR SHETTY, Residing at No.1282, Sankeshwar, Hukkeri, Belgaum, Karnataka - 591313, have changed my name to VIJAYALAKSHMI SHIRAKOLI, vide affidavit dated 14/03/2024, sworn before notary Venkataraju H G, Bangalore.

I, TARUN KUMAR S/o Brij Ballah Rander, R/o D204, Siroya sunshine Apartment, KHB Road, Above Dmart, Sultanpalya, RT Nagar, Bengaluru-560032, Have Changed My Name to TARUN KUMAR MAHESHWARI. Vide Affidavit Dated 14-3-24. Sworn Before Notary Sivakumara.M.N, Bengaluru

I, Syed Shafi Pasha, S/o. Syed Sahib, R/o: #292, 7th Main, 2nd Stage, BTM MICO L/o, Blr-76, have changed my name to SHAFI PASHA for all purposes.

ARCHANA JOHNSON W/O.JOHNSON P THOMAS D.O.B 13.03.1985 R/O NO 1/ 3, Sneha Enclave, Venkateshwara Layout,Jayanthi nagar, Horamavu Village and Po B'lore- 560043, Karnataka,have changed my name to Archana Mishra W/O Johnson P THOMAS, vide affidavit dated:02.03.2024

I, JINESH Y, Residing at No.105, Flat No. 201, 2nd Main 8th Cross, Near Janatha Vidyalaya, Chamrajpet, Bengaluru, Karnataka - 560018, have changed my name to JINESH Y JAIN, vide affidavit dated 14/03/2024, sworn before notary Venkataraju H G, Bangalore.

I Mohan Joseph Maliakkal, S\o Joseph Lazar Maliakkal, R\o #250, 12th B Main, Near Harali Mara Stop, Classic Paradise Layout, Begur Main Road, Bangalore-560068, Have Changed My Name To Mohan Joseph

I Amaranath Panigrahi R/o No 518 Anand Alpine DA 80 Feet Road 13th Main Road Anjanapura 5th Block B'lore-560108 have changed my name to Amarnath Panigrahi. vide Affidavit Dt: 15/03/2024 before Notary Harisha G B'luru.

I, MUKESH JAIN .P, Residing at No 86, 1ST Floor, "Sachiyay Nivaas", H.B. Samaja Cross Road, Basavanagudi, Bangalore -560004, Have changed My name to MUKESH BOHRA vide affidavit dated 15/03/2024 before Notary Aravind Patil G.G Bangalore

I, Vishakha W/o Nishant Bafna R/o No 236, Bafna Nivas, 2nd Main, 17th Cross,ideal Homes, Rajarajeshwari Nagar, B'luru-560098 have changed my name to Vishakha Bafna for all purposes.

I MAHESHKUMAR S/O GANESAN R/O PARIMALA VINATGE, BANGALORE HAS CHANGED MY NAME FROM MAHESHKUMAR GANESAN TO MAHESHKUMAR FOR ALL FUTURE PURPOSES

I, Dhruv Kumar, R/O Brigade Gateway, Malleswaram, Bengaluru-560055 have change my minor son's name from Devansh Kumar to Devansh Kumar Gupta.

I Manjula S W/O, Jayashankar C R/o #118, 1st Main, 3rd Cross, Nisarga Layout, Bannerghatta Road, Bangalore - 560083 have changed my name to Deepa S.

THE TIMES GROUP

Readers are recommended to make appropriate enquires and seek appropriate advice before sending money, incurring any expenses, acting on medical recommendations or entering into any commitment in relation to any advertisement published in this publication. The Times Of India Group doesn't vouch for any claims made by the Advertisers of products and services. The Printer, Publisher, Editor, and Owners of The Times Of India Group publications shall not be held liable for any consequences, in the event such claims are not honoured by the Advertisers.

GET NOTICED

Grand Flea Market Presents
ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ಉತ್ಸವ
Bengaluru Utsava
(Art, Craft, Handloom & Lifestyle Exhibition)
LAST 2 DAYS
Date:
8th March 2024 to 17th March 2024
Timings: 11:00 AM to 7:00 PM
(10 Days Exhibition)
Arts | Handicraft | Clothings
Fashion Accessories | Home Decor & More
Venue:
Karnataka Chitrakala Parishath,
Kumara Krupa Road, Bengaluru
Contact :
6364685716 /
9036658774
100+ Shopping Stalls | Live Performance | 10 Days Exhibition | Free Entry

Invasion of state's forest snatchers is continuing

700+ new cases in April– December 2023; Bengaluru's 121 cases alarming, say experts

Garima Prasher
garima.prasher@timesgroup.com
TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

Of 121 encroachment cases from Bengaluru Circle, 81 cases were registered from Chikkaballapura

Between April and December 2023, the Karnataka Forest Department (KFD) registered more than 700 fresh forest encroachment cases across the state. According to the department's latest interim annual report, the majority of these cases were registered from Shivamogga circle (142), followed by Belagavi (128), and Bengaluru (121) circles. With 716 fresh encroachment cases, the department now has over 45,000 cases of forest encroachments pending eviction.

Out of the 121 encroachment cases from Bengaluru Circle, 81 cases were registered from the Chikkaballapura division, 20 encroachment cases were registered from Bengaluru Urban and 19 from Bengaluru Rural divisions.

"Over 100 encroachment cases from Bengaluru Circle is alarming. The department must focus on Chikkaballapur division as real estate is eating into forest patches in the area. So many encroachments despite the Supreme Court's judgment in 2002 amount to the court's contempt. The judgment mentions that any encroachment on forest land should be immediately evicted and disciplinary action must be taken against senior officials responsible," said Joseph Hoover, former State Board for Wildlife member and founder of the United Conservation Movement and Charitable Trust.

The Supreme Court in 2002 had stated that no fresh encroachments of forest land should be allowed and in case of violations, the official concerned, which is the Deputy Conservator of Forest (DCF) of the sub-division, should be held liable. Any forest department officials giving the opportunity to encroachers can also be prosecuted.

Conservationists highlight an order passed by the Head of Forest Force, Karnataka Forest Department 2018.

"The order was regarding disciplinary action against all officials from the rank of chief conservator of forest to forest guard, under whom encroachment had taken place and eviction did not happen immediately. However, there is hardly any disciplinary action against officials in encroachment cases. This shows the department is not serious about this issue," said a city-based conservationist.

Activists also say while the primary duty of the KFD officials is to conserve existing forest cover and ensure the eviction of illegal encroachments, the department is more devoted to development work.

"While thousands of hectares of forest land is being encroached every year, no action is being taken against KFD officials. A guideline issued by the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MOEF&CC) a few years ago states that in case of any fresh occupation of forest land, the state government shall hold the concerned District Magistrate and Controller, Superintendent of Police, and the Divisional Forest Officer personally responsible and they should be liable for disciplinary action. However, in reality, no disciplinary action is being taken," said a wildlife activist and added that such a high number of encroachments goes to show that the majority of the PCCFs, CCFs, CFs, DCFs, ACFs, and RFOs of forest department have failed to perform their duty.

African Gold makes smashing debut

Ikram Khan
mybangaloremirror
@timesgroup.com
TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

Lady trainer Parvati Byramji struck gold on African Gold. The bred in the purple youngster making his debut in the R Ramakrishnan Memorial Million run over a sprint on the penultimate day of the winter season produced a sterling effort to

start his career on a high note, outclassing his 10 rivals in resplendent style. The winner piloted by leading pro Akshay Kumar clocked a smart time of 1:11.56 seconds and on the strength of this superb effort is certain to test the best in the summer season.

Sports promoter T Maruthi Rao presents the R Ramakrishnan Memorial Million Trophy to lady trainer Parvati Byramji after African Gold won the plum event

Sports promoter T Maruthi Rao pleased with the success of the plum event, a star in the making, African Gold justifying his top billing disclosed that it was a good day out at the Bangalore Turf Club (BTC). "The feature event attracted a good field of 11 runners and we saw a stand out performance from the winner. R Ramakrishnan was a doyen in the horse racing field and I did my bit the moment BTC provided me an opportunity," said Maruthi, a passionate racing aficionado.

Delighted with the smashing debut of African Gold, Parvati said: "Well I always thought that he is in the classic mould and his performance today certainly puts him in the classic hunt taking into account that he clocked a very good time for the six furlongs trip and over an extended trip he will only get better."

Man who jumped in front of bus dies

A 34-year-old man who jumped in front of a BMTC bus succumbed to his injuries at Victoria Hospital. BMTC officials are seeing it as a case of suicide.

The man jumped in front of a bus near Kamakspalya police station at 7:13 pm on February 14. As per the CCTV footage shared by BMTC, the person can seen running towards the oncoming bus. The bus route number 242b/10 was en route from Majestic bus station to Janapriya apartments near Kadabgere road.

As soon as the driver became aware of the accident, he applied brakes but the rear tire went over the victim's left arm and leg. The victim has been identified as Chetan hailing from Andhra Pradesh was immediately taken to a nearby Boss hospital for first aid treatment. The victim was later shifted to Victoria Hospital for further treatment.

The bus was taken to Kamakshipalya Traffic Police Station and the case is being investigated.

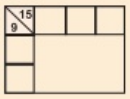
—BMB

SOLVE IT IN A MINUTE

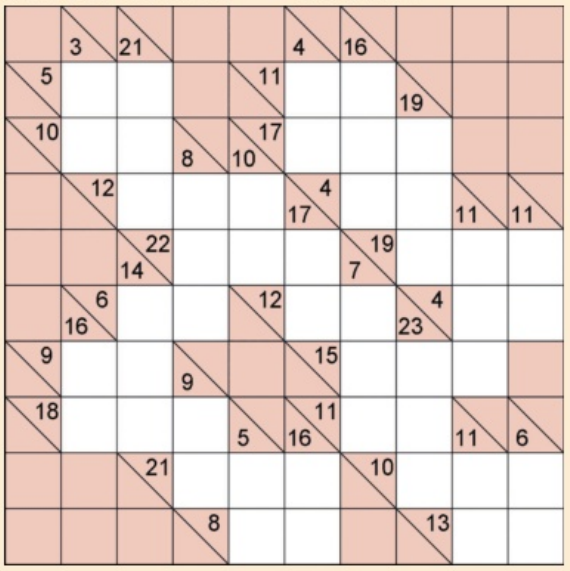
[3!(2(5–8)3)–40] = ?

Kakuro

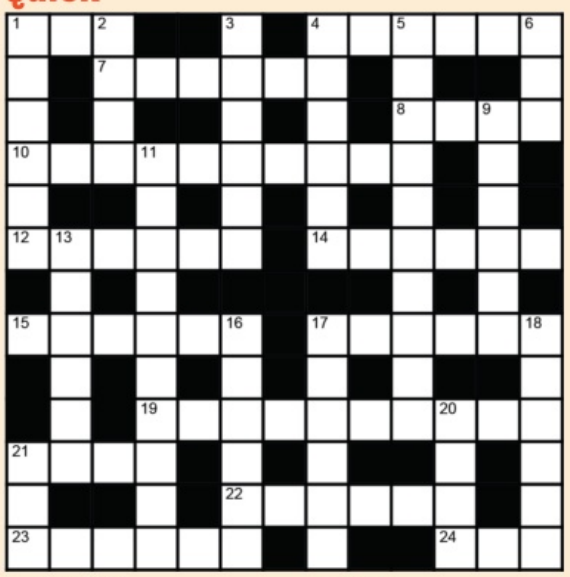
The numbers in the grey squares refer to the sums of the digits that you must fill into the empty spaces directly below or to the right of the grey square containing the number. For instance, in the given example, the 3 boxes horizontally next to 15 must contain 3 digits that add up to 15, whereas for 9, it is the 2 boxes placed vertically under it that must add up to 9. No zeros are used here, only the digits 1 through 9.



Note: A digit cannot appear more than once in any particular digit combination. For instance, in the example, we cannot have the combination of 4+7+4 for 15.



Quick



ACROSS

1 Residue after a fire (3)
4 Hocked (6)
7 Receptive (to an idea) (4,2)
8 Devilish ones (4)
10 Overpriced (10)
12 Paper handkerchief (6)
14 Going __ ___ : walking? (2,4)
15 Assigns or distributes (6)
17 Accompany to point of departure or chase away (3,3)
19 Depressed; dejected (10)
21 Hindu god of fire (4)
22 Free from obligation (6)
23 More huge or bulkier (6)
24 A Japanese copper coin (3)

DOWN

2 Tramp or loiterer (4)
3 Spur to action (6)
4 French fries ingredient (6)
5 Area home to Sathya Sai Baba's ashram (10)
6 Karl Marx's ___ Kapital (3)
9 Postpone or discouraged (3,3)
11 Reacting (10)
13 Lazing (6)
16 Nun (6)
17 Put aside (6)
18 Goes well together (4,2)
20 Newts (4)
21 Priestly vestment (3)

Quoteuncode

This puzzle is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that Q equals C, it will equal C throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

Today's CLUE: Q EQUALS G

FV FJL ZVNP, FJLML RZ JKMIPW KBWFJRBQ HVML JLKPRBQ FJKB EMRLBIZJRY.

Linemaro

Your lips look so lonely.... Would they like to meet mine?

Mindchow

Never let the things you want make you forget the things you have

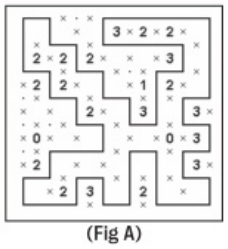
Joke of the day

Sometimes I text and drive. I know it's dangerous, but I do stupid things when I'm drunk

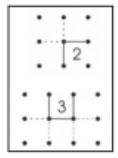
Loop

Rules

» Connect adjacent dots with vertical or horizontal lines, creating a single loop (Fig A). » Crossovers or branches are not allowed (As shown by dotted lines in Fig B). » Numbers in the puzzle indicate the number of lines that should surround it, while empty cells may be surrounded by any number of lines. » You can't draw lines around zeros. » Each puzzle has just one unique solution.



(Fig A)

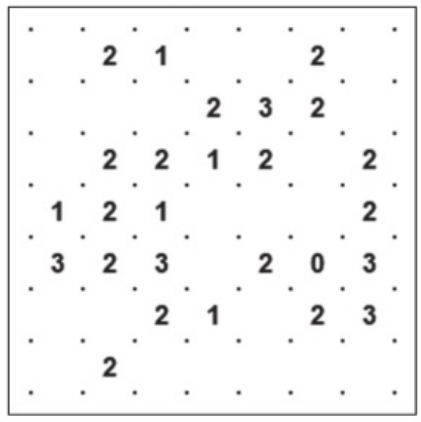


(Fig B) Not Allowed

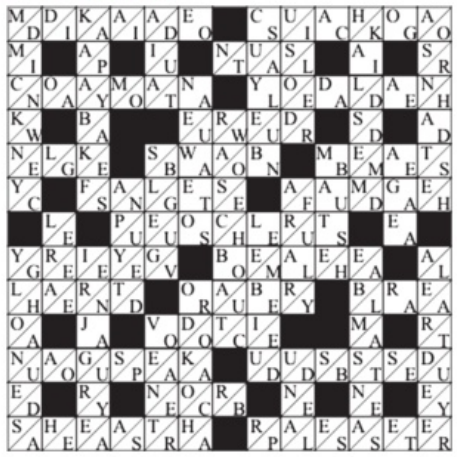
How to begin:

Example (Fig A) – Begin with the zero next to 3. Since no lines can be drawn around zero, mark crosses around it, as shown. Now there is a cross in one space around 3. So we know the three lines of 3 can only be drawn in the remaining three spaces. Next, these lines can only be extended in one direction each. Continue, using the same logic.

Hints: Keep eliminating possibilities by marking crosses in spaces between dots where a line isn't possible, i.e., if you have already completed required lines or where a line extension may create a branch or cause a dead-end (Fig B)



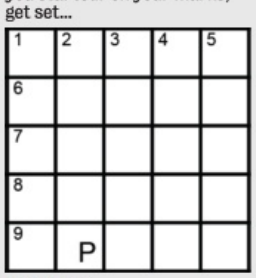
Strikeout



This crossword has no clues and the answer is there waiting for you. All you have to do is find it in each square. You have a choice of two letters, one of which you must strike out. If you choose correctly, you will be left with a grid that contains real words.

Fast five

How long do you think it will take you to unscramble the ten words shown below and fit them correctly into the grid in the order given one letter has already been entered to get you started? on your marks, get set...



ACROSS

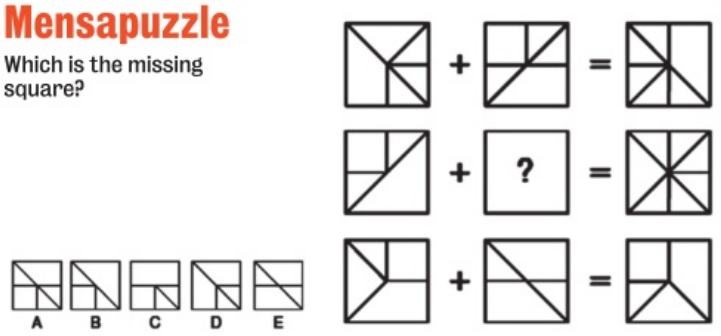
1 Talcs; 6 Ace I a;
7 Sir ST; 8 Us ten;
9 Pines

DOWN

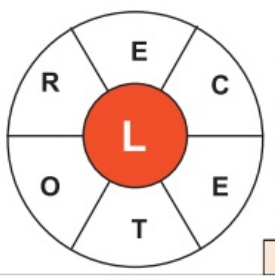
1 Scats; 2 Up let;
3 In CIA; 4 Resin;
5 Asset

Mensapuzzle

Which is the missing square?



Bull's eye



How many words of four or more letters can you make from the letters shown? Every word must contain the central letter. There should be one seven-letter word. British English Dictionary is used as a reference.

05 Average; 06 Good; 08 Outstanding

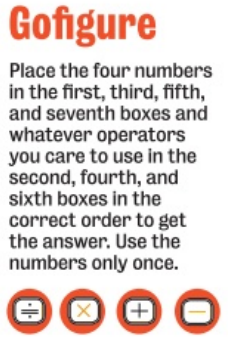
SudokuChallenge

4								2
7	1	3				8	6	9
			8		6			
3		7		2		9		4
			3		5			
2		6		7		1		8
			5		7			
1	9	4				6	7	5
6								3

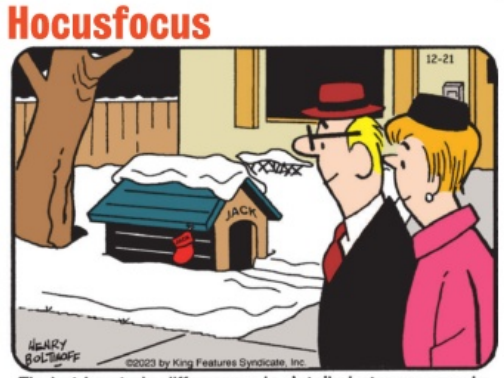
To solve a Sudoku puzzle, every digit from one to nine must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows and in each of the nine boxes.

Gofigure

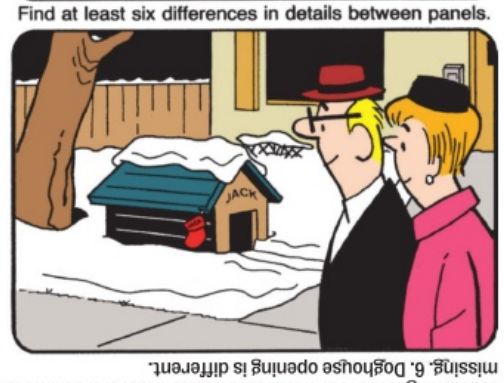
Place the four numbers in the first, third, fifth, and seventh boxes and whatever operators you care to use in the second, fourth, and sixth boxes in the correct order to get the answer. Use the numbers only once.



Hocusfocus



Find at least six differences in details between panels.



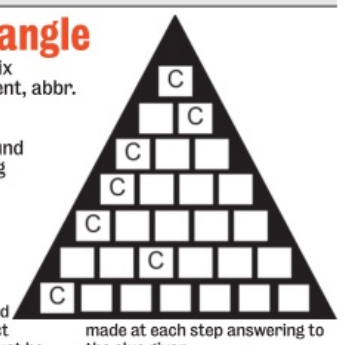
Differences: 1. Shutter is missing. 2. Tile is missing. 3. Stocking is moved. 4. House is not as wide. 5. Tree limb is missing. 6. Doghouse opening is different.

Riddler

The numbers of flowers Lida picked from Monday to Thursday was 60, 55, 5 and 20 respectively. If, after Friday, the average number of flowers picked every day was 33, how many flowers did Lida pick on Friday?

Alpha triangle

1 Atomic number Six
2 Alternating current, abbr.
3 Is able
4 Highland group
5 Loud metallic sound
6 Fortifying; spiking
7 Wiring

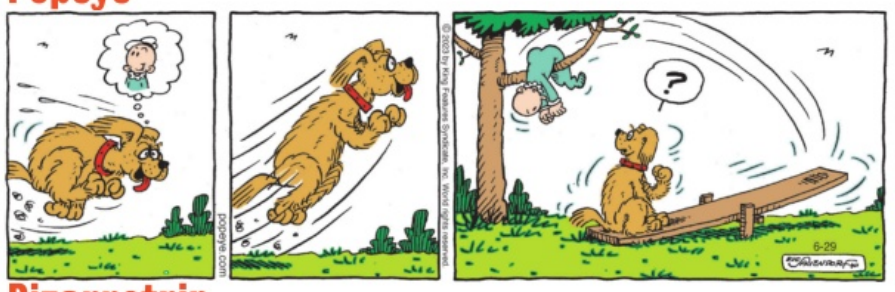


Beginning at the top move towards the bottom seven-letter word by adding a letter at each step and rearranging. A correct and different word must be made at each step answering to the clue given.

DIFFICULT TO SOLVE? FIND THESE SOLUTIONS ON THE NEXT PAGE

COMICS

Popeye



Bizarrotrip

BIZARRO.COM
Your Valentine's and Saint Patrick's side gigs each require a separate Schedule C.
Wayno & Piraro 12-21-23
©2023 BIZARRO SYNDICATE

Diamond Lil

Hart of the city

KAT, I DIDN'T EVEN USE THE ANSWERS I GOT!
AS I WAS TAKING THE TEST, I FIGURED OUT THE ANSWERS ON MY OWN!
OOOH, I'M STRESSED.
YOU'RE STRESSED? I'M BASICALLY A FUGITIVE!!
HEART OF THE CITY © 2023 ANDREWS MCMEEL
GOCOMICS.COM/HEARTOFTHECITY

Crankshaft

THAT WAS GREAT OF MAX AND HANNAH TO HELP US GET SOME NEWS COVERAGE!
YEAH... I'D FORGOTTEN THAT EVEN THOUGH THEY RUN THE VALENTINE THEATER... THEY STILL WORK AT CHANNEL ONE PART-TIME.
AND THEY SAID THEY'D KEEP TRYING TO HELP US.
AND HERE'S A COUPON FOR AN APPETIZER AT MONTONI'S WHEN THEY REOPEN!
CHANNEL 1
MONTONI'S
POP CORN
BATIUK & DAVIS tombatiuk.com/books
12-21

Mutts

WHAT YOUR STARS SAY TODAY

Aries Mar 21 – Apr 20
Today you may be busy with family and friends. You may plan to go to a party or watch movies. Mutual respect may arise between couples, which may be a reason for a strong foundation in your domestic life. Many disputes in partnerships may be resolved. Students are advised to make quick decisions regarding their careers. Lovebirds may make some important decisions regarding marriage.

Taurus Apr 21 – May 20
Today you may perform well at work. Your bonding with the boss is likely to improve. Your opponents and rivals are now under control. Money that was stuck is likely to be recovered now, which may increase liquidity in the business.

Gemini May 21 – Jun 21
Today you may be busy with kids' issues. Kids' health is likely to improve. You may plan for your kids' academics. Couples may welcome a new child into the family. You may use your presence of mind to settle disputes in terms of business and social life.

Cancer Jun 22 – July 23
Today, you may feel disappointed and unfocused. Negative thoughts may upset you. It is advised to connect with positive people around you. You may plan to migrate from one place to another. Job seekers may find a new job, and students are advised to be patient. Singles will likely find a good match.

Leo Jul 24 – Aug 23
Today, you are more energetic and excited. Your focus on your goals might be very good. Your network may help you grow your business. You are advised to follow your intuition before making investments in fixed assets. Emotional relationships with spouses are likely to improve, maintaining domestic harmony. Singles may find a soul mate with the help of siblings or friends.

Virgo Aug 24 – Sep 23
In the last couple of days, you may have been busy with family and friends, planning outings. Kids' education may also keep you busy. Kids' health may upset you. It is advised to control your tongue and ego, as they may affect domestic harmony.

Libra Sep 24 – Oct 22
Today, you are advised to be careful when signing contracts. Read documents carefully before signing important ones. Due to overexcitement, you may make silly mistakes. Your boss may be cooperative now, and you may expect a job promotion. Lovebirds are advised to avoid discussing family matters.

Scorpio Oct 23 – Nov 22
Today, you may feel dull due to the moon, making you impatient and nervous. You may criticize yourself. Keep an eye on opponents and rivals. Avoid fantasy in professional efforts and postpone making new investments. Take care of your mother and elders.

Sagittarius Nov 23 – Dec 22
Today is a favourable day for you. You may expect to inherit property and recover bad debts, boosting your financial health. Losses may turn into profits now. There may be some improvement in relationships with loved ones, and students will be able to choose the right career.

Capricorn Dec 23 – Jan 20
Today, you may be busy at work and make important decisions that could increase your business. You may also expect a big order, which may further increase business. Disputes with spouses will be settled, creating family harmony.

Aquarius Jan 21 – Feb 19
Today, you are blessed by elders and may be more spiritual. You may visit religious places with family and friends or consult elders for advice. Singles may find their soul mate, and lovebirds will be happy in dating.

Pisces Feb 20 – Mar 20
Today, you may feel dull and surrounded by mysterious fear. Visit religious places or chant prayers to overcome this situation. Keep an eye on opponents and business rivals to avoid being a victim of conspiracy. Lovebirds are advised to avoid unnecessary arguments.

KIDZONE

Neev Raj Singh, 6 Years, National Public School

Shreya K G, 5 Years, Lady Vailankanni English School

Kidzone, Bangalore Mirror, No. 74/2, Sanjana Plaza, 4th & 5th Floor, Elephant Rock Road, Jayanagar 3rd block, Bengaluru-560 011;
Please send hard copies of your artwork in A4 size only.

SOLUTIONS

SOLVE IN 1M
[3i(2(-3)3)-1]
[6(-18)-1]
[-108-1]
-109

RIDDLER 25 flowers

BULL'S EYE
clot, colt, elect, ELECTOR, leer, lore, reel, role

FAST FIVE

C	L	A	S	T
A	E	C	I	A
S	T	I	R	S
T	U	N	E	S
S	P	I	N	E

STRIKE OUT

M	I	K	A	D	O		C	U	C	K	O	O		
I		A		I		T	A	S		I		R		
C	A	Y	M	A	N		L	E	A	D	E	N		
K		A		E	W	E	R		D		A			
E	L	K		S	W	A	B		B	E	A	T		
Y		S	A	L	T	S		F	U	D	G	E		
E		N		C	B		N		E		R			
D	R		N		E		D	U	S	T	E	D		
N	A	U	S	E	A		D	U	S	T	E	D		
A		J		V	O	T	E			A		R		
L	A	N	D		R	U	B	Y		B	A	A		
G	R	I	E	G		O	M	A	H	A		L		
E		P	U	S	H	E	R	R	S		A			
S	H	E	A	T	H		P	A	S	S	E	R		

QUICK

B	I	G	G	E	R		D		S	E	N			
L		N		E	X	E	M	P	T		I			
A	G	N	I		T		R		F		S			
N		D	E	S	P	O	N	D	E	N	T			
I		N		I		T		L			I			
A	L	L	O	T	S		S	E	E	O	F	F		
D		P			I						F			
T	I	S	S	U	E		O	N	F	O	O	T		
N		E		T		T	E		T					
E	X	O	R	B	I	T	A	N	T		U			
C		B		C		T		I	M	P	S			
C	O	P	E	N	T	O		H			A			
E		R			P	A	W	N	E	D				

ALPHA TRIANGLE
C, AC, Can, Clan, Clang, Lacing, Cabling.

GO FIGURE
Easy
6 + 8 – 4 + 6 = 16
Medium
9 + 7 – 4 + 7 = 19
Hard
5 + 2 – 6 x 7 = 7

QUOTE UNCODE
To the soul, there is hardly anything more healing than friendship.

MENSA PUZZLE
A: lines from the first two boxes are carried forward to the third box, except when two lines appear in the same position, in which case they are cancelled out.

SUDOKU

6	7	5	1	4	9	2	8	3
1	9	4	2	3	8	6	7	5
8	3	2	5	6	7	4	9	1
2	5	6	9	7	4	1	3	8
9	4	1	3	8	5	7	2	6
3	8	7	6	2	1	9	5	4
5	2	9	8	1	6	3	4	7
7	1	3	4	5	2	8	6	9
4	6	8	7	9	3	5	1	2

LOOP

KAKURO

Volume No 17, Issue No 011 RNI NO:KARENG/2007/22411 Published for the Proprietors, Metropolitan Media Company Ltd by R.J. Prakashan at No. 74/2, Sanjana Plaza, 4th & 5th Floor, Elephant Rock Road, Jayanagar 3rd block, Bengaluru-560 011 and printed by him at Bennett Coleman & Co Ltd., The Times of India Press, No. 9/10/11-A, 4th Main, KIADB Bommasandra Industrial Area, Anekal Taluk, Bangalore – 560 099 (Phones : Press : 080-22899999; Editorial : 080-40877666, Fax – 40877545, Registered Office: No. 74/2, Sanjana Plaza, 4th & 5th Floor, Elephant Rock Road, Jayanagar 3rd block, Bengaluru – 560 011, Email : mybangaloremirror@timesgroup.com Editor : Ms. Seena Menon – responsible for selection of news under PRB Act. © Reproduction in whole or in part without the written permission of the Publisher is prohibited.

SAMSUNG

Galaxy S24 Ultra

Circle it, find it

Galaxy Ultra Days

March 12-22, 2024

Retail price of S24 Ultra (256GB)	₹ 129999#
Exchange value of old device	₹ 63000~
Upgrade bonus	₹ 12000^
Special upgrade bonus for Galaxy S Series	₹ 5000^
Galaxy Ultra Days' offer price	**₹ 49999***

Also get ₹ 12000## off on Galaxy Watch6 with Galaxy S24 Series

Up to ₹ 17000 upgrade bonus^ | Samsung Upgrade | HDFC BANK | BAJAJ FINSERV | Samsung Finance+™

samsung.com

Please dispose off e-waste and plastic waste responsibly. Customers can WhatsApp on 1800 5 7267864 for information on e-waste/plastic pick up.

Image simulated for representational purpose, actual may vary. S Pen embedded in Galaxy S24 Ultra. Circle to Search results may vary depending on visual matches. Google is a trademark of Google LLC. Compatible devices and internet connection required. Works on compatible apps and surfaces. Results may vary depending on visual matches. Users may need to update Android to the latest version. Product functionality may be dependent on your app and device settings. Some functions may not be compatible with certain apps. Availability of the service varies by country and language. Accuracy of results is not guaranteed. T&C apply. #Retail price of 1 Unit of Galaxy S24 Ultra 12GB | 256GB. Price inclusive of taxes. ~Approximate value on exchange of 1 Unit of Galaxy S23 Ultra 12GB | 256GB. Exchange value varies basis model & condition of old device. Exchange at the sole discretion of dealer. ^Upgrade bonus as per Samsung Upgrade program, provided by brand/dealer at their sole discretion upon exchange of select devices. Upgrade bonus varies model wise and EMI offer taken by the customer. Up to ₹ 12000 upgrade bonus is applicable only where customer does not avail the 24 months no cost EMI offer. The upgrade bonus shall be up to ₹ 6000 only when availed with 24 months no cost EMI offer. Special upgrade bonus provided by brand at its sole discretion upon exchange of select Galaxy S Series devices. Please reach out to dealer for eligible device information. *Offer price shown for 1 Unit of Galaxy S24 Ultra 12GB | 256GB inclusive of exchange value of old device, upgrade bonus and special upgrade bonus for Galaxy S Series as detailed above. Final pricing subject to dealer discretion. **Offer valid on 1 Unit of Galaxy Watch6 when purchased with Galaxy S24 Series. Offer applicable across entire Watch6 Series. Reach out to dealer for more information. Offers may be revised or withdrawn without prior notice. All third party logos/brands are trademarks/registered trademarks of the respective brand/company. Samsung promotes responsible use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) features.

Scan and experience Galaxy AI

Or WhatsApp "Hi" to 9870 494949 to buy at Samsung Exclusive Store

Cheil-19533/24